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*2/26/04*  
*JLM*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ken WATANABE et al.  
Serial No.: 09/654,089  
Filed: September 1, 2000  
For: METHOD FOR SENDING NOTICE OF FAILURE DETECTION  
Group: 2184  
Examiner: E. Puente

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FEB 23 2004

Technology Center 2100

**AMENDMENT**

**MS AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 13, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 21, 2003, the period for reply thereto being extended by one month by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to expire on February 21, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.